गणतन्त्र दिवस 1994 और स्वाधीनता दिवस 1994 के दौरान, राष्ट्रपति के संदेश 35 मिशनों/केन्द्रों में हिन्दी में 45 मिशनों/केन्द्रों में हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में मिश्रित रूप से और 39 मिशनों/केन्द्रों में अंग्रेजी में पढ़े गए। शेष मिशनों/केन्द्रों के संबंध में सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है तथा सदन के पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

(ग) मंत्रालय ने लिखित रूप से यह सलाह दी है कि समारोह के अवसरों पर, विशेषरूप से गणतन्त्र दिवस और स्वाधीनता दिवस समारोहों पर हमारे मिशनों/केन्द्रों में हिन्दी के उपयोग के बढ़ावा दिया जाए। इन समारोहों पर हिन्दी के प्रयोग में वृद्धि हो रही है।

Fencing Work at Indo-Bangaldesh Border

336. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fencing work through barbed wire at Indo-Bangladesh border has been interrupted due to heavy protest by the Bengladesh nationals and security forces; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the measures which have been taken to check it and start the work there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) A protest was received from 15 Bn. Bangladesh Rifles conveying concern about erection of fencing which will effect the movement of Bangladesh nationals to 33 Bangladesh enclaves in India opposite District Lalmonirhat. The matter was discussed during DG level Coordination Meeting held from 26 to 30 June, 1995 between Bangladesh Rifles and BSF authorities. The fencing work is in progress.

केले से तैयार की गई खाद्य वस्तुओं का विकास और निर्यात किया जाना

337 श्री नरेश यादव: क्या खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार केले के उत्पादन में वृद्धि करने और केले से तैयार खाद्य-वस्तुओं के विकास और निर्यात के बारे में विचार कर रही है;

(ख) क्या बिहार सरकार ने इस संबंध में कोई प्रस्ताव भेजा है; और

(ग) क्या सरकार केले के उत्पादन में वृद्धि करने और केला उद्योग को बढ़ावा देने हेतु कोई सेमिनार आयोजित करने पर विचार कर रही है?

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री तरुण गोगोई): (क) सरकार विभिन्न बागवानी उत्पादों के विकास को प्रोत्साहित कर रही है जिनमें केला और केले से बने उत्पाद शामिल हैं।

(ख) इस मंत्रालय में बिहार सरकार से ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

(ग) इस मंत्रालय का इस संबंध में कोई सेमिनार आयोजित करने का विचार नहीं है। बहरहाल, बागवानी तथा बागवानी पर आधारित उद्योगों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए राज्य सरकारों, उद्योग संघों को सेमिनार आयोजित करने हेतु प्रोत्साहित किया जाता है।

"Forest Fires in the Country"

338. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country witnessed a large number of forest fires in the last few months;

(b) what is the estimated loss of forest wealth due to these fires; and

(c) what measures are being taken to remove the administrative and infrastructural difficulties encountered in dealing with the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is being collected from the States/Union Territories and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely 'Modern Forest Fire Control Mathods' is under implementation in 11 states of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamilnadu and Uttar Pradesh.

Under the Scheme 100% assistance is provided to the states for the procurement of modern hand tools, fire resistant clothing, fire finders, fire tenders, construction of watch towers, creation of fire lines, training and demonstration, research and publicity to enable the states for prevention, detection and suppression of forest fires.

Foreign Companies in Cellular and Basic Telecommunication Services

339. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV:
SHRI RAGHAVJI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several foreign companies are participating in the tenders issued by Government for the introduction of Cellular and basic telephone services in the country; and if so, the details thereof;

(b) which are the countries to which these companies bidding for telephone services belong; and

(c) whether Government would ensure that not only USA, Europe and Japan but some Asian countries also get a chance to participate in the development of modern telephone services in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir. The Government has invited tenders for franchise of Cellular and Basic Telephone Services from registered Indian companies. In order to meet the eligibility conditions, the bidders have formed joint venture companies in collaboration with foreign companies. However, foreign equity in the bidder companies is limited to 49%.

(b) and (c) The countries to which the foreign companies bidding for telecom services belong are as follows:—

(I) **For Basic Telephone Services**

China, USA, Thailand, Malaysia, Netherland, Mauritius, Italy, Philliphines, Canada, Sweden, Israel, Japan, Germany, Australia, etc.

(II) **For Cellular Telephone Service**

USA, Thailand, Singapore, Israel, Mauritius, Canada, U.K., Italy, Phillipines, Sweden, Norway, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Kuwait, Korea, Germany, France, Hongkong, Malaysia, Australia, China, Netherland, etc.

From the above it may be seen that foreign companies belonging to countries other than USA, Europe & Japan have also participated in tenders for Basic and Cellular Telephone Services.

Restructuring of the DOT

340. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the department of Telecommunications is being restructured into three wings-India Telecom, Telecom Commission and the Telecom Regulatory Authority;

(b) if so, whether these wings are being set up by an act of Parliament to ensure their independence or under any administrative order; and

(c) the terms and conditions of these wings and the criteria to be adopted for the selection of Chairman/Members of the each wing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) an exercise to restructure DOT for the purpose of distancing policy making, regulation and operational functions has been undertaken. It has been decided to constitute Telecom Regulatory Authority for regulating telecom services. It will be set up after the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill, 1995 which has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 2nd June, 1995 has been passed by the Parliament.